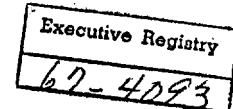


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Congress of the United States
JOINT COMMITTEE ON ATOMIC ENERGY

August 24, 1967



Mr. Richard Helms
Director of Central Intelligence
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, D. C. 20505

Dear Mr. Helms:

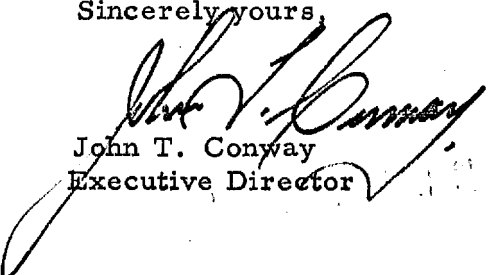
A New York Times article dated August 20, 1967, indicated that an unusual sequence of space launchings by the Soviet Union had led some American officials to conclude that the Russians are testing techniques for re-entering warheads from space. The article went on to say that "...The flights began last September in what was unusual secrecy even for the Russians. The most recent flight in the series of seven was made 11 days ago."

It would be appreciated if you would provide an assessment of the accuracy of this article and further whether the Soviets have undertaken flights to develop a capability to orbit nuclear weapons. It would also be appreciated if you would provide us your best estimate on the accuracy of the Soviet re-entry capability from orbiting satellites.

I am enclosing a copy of the Times article.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Sincerely yours,


John T. Conway
Executive Director

Enclosure:
Cy Times article.